Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* May I know whether this system is followed in all schools?

Rao Sahib I. N. Menon *(Director of Public Instruction):* It is being followed in all the Schools I have visited.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* Have the girls any dumbel exercise ?

Rao Sahib I. N. Menon *(Director of Public Instruction):* It is not being resorted to during School hours?

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* Is there any objection ?

Rao Sahib I. N. Menon *(Director of Public Instruction):* There is absolutely no objection according to Code.

LEAVE FOR ILL-HEALTH—CERTIFICATES FROM ASSISTANT SURGEONS

80. Mr. K. R. Viswambharan *(Ezhuvas-Talappalli):* Will the Government be pleased to state.—

(*a*) whether there are cases in the second half of 1114 where certificates from Assistant Surgeons were insisted upon for granting leave for teachers of the Education Department;

(*b*) if so, the number of such cases;

(*c*) whether such certificates from Assistant Surgeons are required for the purpose of granting maternity leave for women teachers;

(*d*) are there not cases where maternity leave has been refused for want of such certificates?

Rao Sahib I. N. Menon *(Director of Public Instruction):*

(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) In all cases where leave applied for is on account of ill-health a certificate from a doctor not below the rank of an Assistant Surgeon is insisted on.

(*c*) Yes.

(*d*) Yes.

Mr. K. R. Viswambharan *(Ezhuvas-Talappalli):* May I know from the Hon'ble Member for Medicine the number of Assistant Surgeons in the Cochin Medical Department?

Dr. T. Verghese *(Offg. Chief Medical Officer):* Forty-seven.

Mr. K. R. Viswambharan *(Ezhuvas-Talappalli):* May I know the reason for insisting on such certificates from Assistant Surgeons even in the case of maternity leave?

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Rao Sahib I. N. Menon *(Director of Public Instruction):* Sir, that is a question which is being raised not for the first time. It came also in the form of a resolution or a cut motion. The question was discussed threadbare and the reason which persuaded the Government to adopt this also was fully explained by the Secretary to Government. As far as I can say, the reason is, if very cheap facilities are afforded, the result usually is that you get a very large number of certificates irrespective of the consideration as to who are the persons who actually want sick leave. Therefore, if some check is not placed on the facilities with which a person can obtain a medical certificate, there will be many more medical certificates than there are now. This was the reason which persuaded the Government to place some check on these applications for leave on medical certificate. You have to draw a line somewhere, and the Assistant Surgeon is very really a satisfactory stage in the hierarchy of medical practitioners where you can draw the line.

മിസ്റ്റർ കെ. എസ്സ്. പണിക്കർ: മെറ്റേർനിറ്റി സർട്ടിഫിക്കേറ്റ് കൊടുക്കുവാൻ കൂടി അനർഹനായിട്ടുള്ള ആളാണെന്നു കാണുന്ന ഒരു മെഡിക്കൽമാനെ ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെണ്ടിൽ വെച്ചുകൊണ്ടിരിക്കുന്നതു് ഒരിക്കലും സഹികാര്യമായിട്ടുള്ളതല്ലെന്നു ഗവൺമെൻറിനറിയാമോ?

റാവുസാഹിബ്ബു് ഐ. എൻ. മേനോൻ: മെഡിക്കൽ സർട്ടിഫിക്കേറ്റു് കൊടുക്കുവാൻ അധികാരമില്ലാത്തതുകൊണ്ടു് ചികിത്സിക്കുവാൻ തൃണിയില്ലാത്ത ആളാണെന്നു വരുന്നില്ല. സാധാരണയായിട്ടു നാട്ടുവൈദ്യന്മാർ വളരെ ആളുകളെ ചികിത്സിച്ചു വരുന്നുണ്ടു്. അവരുടെ സർട്ടിഫിക്കേറ്റുകൾ സഹികരിക്കപ്പെടുന്നതല്ല.

Mr. President: There is nothing for arguing the point. Government have to fix certain standards.

Mr. K. R. Viswambharan *(Ezhuvas-Talappalli):* May I know why the Government insist upon this certificate even in the case of maternity leave? Has the Government any fear that delivery cases will be more if L. M. Ps. are allowed to give certificates?

Rao Sahib I. N. Menon *(Director of Public Instruction):* Maternity leave is not applied for after confinement.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* Are there not Assistant Surgeons available in the neighbourhood of all schools?

Rao Sahib I. N. Menon *(Director of Public Instruction):* Yes.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar *(Nellayi):* Is it not enough if the headmaster or the headmistress gives a certificate in the matter of maternity leave?

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Mr. President: Have you received any complaint that people have found it difficult to get maternity leave?

Rao Sahib I. N. Menon *(Director of Public Instruction):* Apart from the representations made here, I have not received any single petition where the applicant has met with any difficulty.

Mr. K. R. Viswambharan *(Ezhuvas-Talappalli):* Are there not cases where the Director of Public Instruction has given a positive answer? Will it not work hardship to those applicants?

Rao Sahib I. N. Menon *(Director of Public Instruction):* The certificates were produced and they were granted leave. It shows that there is no serious difficulty on that point.

മിസ്റ്റർ കെ. അയ്യപ്പൻ: അസിസ്റ്റൻറ് സർജന്മാർ അത്ര അധികമൊന്നും ഈ സ്റ്റേറിൽ ഇല്ല. അവരുടെ സർട്ടിഫിക്കറ്റ് കിട്ടണമെങ്കിൽ 6-ം, 7-ം മൈൽ അകലെവരെ പോകേണ്ടതായിട്ടുവരും. ആ വിഷമംകൊണ്ടാണ് പറയുന്നത്.

Mr. President: If any case is brought to the notice of the Government, that any body has found it difficult to obtain a certificate from an Assistant Surgeon, then certainly Government will think about it and they will take necessary steps in the matter.

മിസ്റ്റർ ടി. കെ. നായർ: ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥന്മാർ പൊട്ടന്നവെ സുഖക്കേടായിട്ട് ലീവിനപേക്ഷിച്ചാൽ സിവിൽ സർജൻറെ സർട്ടിഫിക്കറ്റ് കൊണ്ടുവരാതെ സാധിക്കയില്ലെന്നു പറഞ്ഞതായിട്ട് എനിക്കറിയാം.

റാവു സാഹിബ് ഐ. എൻ. മേനോൻ: ലീവ് ആപ്ലിക്കേഷൻകൂടിത്തന്നെ മെഡിക്കൽ സർട്ടിഫിക്കറ്റിനും അപേക്ഷിച്ചിട്ടുണ്ടാകും.

മിസ്റ്റർ കെ. അയ്യപ്പൻ: അസിസ്റ്റൻറ് സർജനും കൂടുതൽ പണം കൊടുക്കണം. അതിനു താഴെയുള്ളവർക്കാണെങ്കിൽ അതിലും കുറഞ്ഞ സംഖ്യ കൊടുത്താൽ മതി. അതാണ് ഇതിൻറെ പരമാർത്ഥം.

Mr. K. Kochukunhan Kaimal *(Vadakkancheri):* Is it not better that a distinction is made between maternity leave and other kinds of leave? Because, as the Director explained, there will be a possibility of larger applicants coming forward when facilities are given to them. In the case of maternity leave, such things are not possible. Is it not better that so much of stringency is not insisted upon applicants for maternity leave?

COMMITTEE FOR THE IMPROVEMENT OF COMMUNICATIONS IN CHENNAMANGALAM

81. Mr. V. K. Bhaskara Menon *(Cranganur):* Will the Government be pleased to state whether the Committee for the improvement of the communications of the Chennamangalam village has

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